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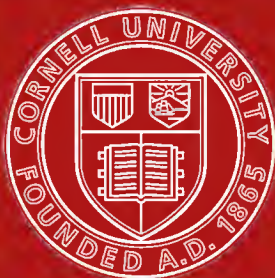
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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Like Will To Like

By ULPIAN FULWELL

Date of Earliest Recorded Edition, 1568

Date of Original of this Edition, 1587

[*B.M. Press-mark, C. 34, c. 36*]

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1909

Like Will to Like

A. 234237

Like Will To Like

BY ULPIAN FULWELL

The original is in the British Museum (Press-mark, C. 34, c. 36), and is correctly described in the "Catalogue of Books in British Museum printed in England before 1640," as "cropped by the binder." This copy of the 1587 edition was supposed to be unique until another example similarly dated turned up in the Mostyn sale at Sotheby's (May 31st and June 1st, 1908), realising £101 (Quaritch). I have not been able to compare the two copies, but if the sale-catalogue is to be trusted the two are not quite identical, as the Mostyn copy is said to end with "Finis q^d Ulysian Fulwell," whereas the B.M. example has "Vlpian Fulwell": I suspect, however, an easily-made mis-reading of manuscript in the sale catalogue.

The Mostyn copy is described as "perfect and in good state," except that "one head-line and a few front marginal notes are slightly cut into." The general condition of the British Museum example is anything but good. Mr. R. B. Fleming, the technical photographer charged with the collotype reproduction of this series, states that "every page of the original is more or less blurred." He adds, in response to my direct and special enquiry, "considering the unsatisfactory condition of

the original copy the result in this facsimile reprint is as good as could possibly have been obtained."

Mr. J. A. Herbert of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum generally confirms Mr. Fleming's report. In some places—I will particularise hereafter—he says "the stained pages are slightly worse than in original. This may be quite unavoidable in the present state of photographic science. Otherwise the reproduction is excellent."

In this connection it must be remembered that no "faking" or "touching up" of the original is permitted; and, with this proviso, special criticism and notes are tendered as follows:—

- (1) Title-page, the verso is blank in the old copy.*
- (2) [A. iiij.] verso, line 8 from bottom, there is no flaw in the initial "J" in the original.*
- (3) A. iiij. verso to B. ij. recto, B. iiij. verso, D. iiij. verso, and D. iiij. recto, "the stains in parts of these pages are slightly darker than in original." In particular may be cited B. j. recto, first six lines—B. j. verso, lines 22, 29, and 31—B. ij. recto, lines 12, 13, 18 (the last three words are so faine haue), 21, 22, and 29 to 33: on the other hand the speakers' names on lines 31 to 33 are "too faint and spotty" [they are] "quite clear in original"—B. iiij. verso, lines 17, 19, 23, and 33—B. iiij. verso, line 1—C. ij. verso, line 2 (first word), and line 3 (first two words)—C. iiij. verso, lines 22, 30, 31, 32—[C. iiij.] recto, line 5 from bottom (the*

words "I to you")—[C. iiij.] verso, last line
—D. iiij. verso, last two lines (the words
"hope not them" and "for to win"—
D. iiij. recto (the three stanzas at head
of page)—E. ij. verso, line 17—E. iiij. recto,
line 17—[F. ij.] recto, line 4 (second word).

*Little is known of the author beyond his name: see
"Dictionary of National Biography." Two other produc-
tions of his pen are, however, extant: (1) "The Flower of
Fame," and (2) "Ars Adulandi, the Art of Flattery," &c.*

JOHN S. FARMER.

A pleasant Enterlude.

intituled, Like will to Like quoth the
Deuill to the Collier. Wherin is declared what pu-
nishments followe those that will rather liue
licentiously: then esteeme and followe good
Counsell. And what benefits they receiue
that apply them selues to vertuous
liuing and good exercises.

Made by Vlpian
Fulwel.

Five may easily play this Enterlude.

The Prologue. }
Tom Tospot. } foz one.
Halkin hangman. }
Tom Collier. }

Haunce. }
Vertuous Life. } foz one.
Gods Promise. }
Cutbert cutpurs }

Lucifer. }
Rafe Roister. } foz one.
Good Fame. }
Seueritie. }

Philip Fleming. }
Pierce pickpurs } foz one.
Honour. }

{ Nichol Newfangle the Vice. }

LONDON

Printed by Edward Allde, and are
to be Solde at the Long Shop adioyning
vnto Sainte Mildreds Church in
the Pultrie. 1587.

The Prologue.

Cicero in his booke de amicitia these wordes dooth expresse,
Saying nothing is moze desirous then like is vnto like:
Whose wordes are most true and of a certainty doubles,
For the vertuous do not the vertuous company mislike.
But the vicious dooth the vertuous company elchue:
And like wil vnto like this is most true.

It is not my meaning your eares for to wery,
with harkning what is the effect of our matter:
But our pretence is to moue you to be mery,
Merily to speak meaning no man to flatter.
The name of this matter as I said while ere,
is like wil to like quod the Deuil to the Collier.

Sith pithie prouerbs in our English tung do abound,
Our authoz thought good such a one for to chuse:
As may shew good example and mirth may eke be found,
But no lasciuious toys he purposeth to vse,
Hærin as it were in a glasse see you may:
the aduancement of vertue and of vice the decay.

To what ruin ruffins and roisters are brought,
You may hære see of them the finall end:
Begging is the best though that end be naught.
But hanging is worse if they do not amend.
The vertuous life is brought to honoz and dignitie:
And at the last to euerlasting eternitie.

And because diuers men of diuers mindes be,
Some do matters of mirth and pastime require:
Other some are delighted with matters of grauitie.
to please all men is our authozs cheef desire.
wherfoze mirth with mesure to sadnes is annexed,
Desiring that none hære at our matter wil be perplexed.

Thus as I said I wil be short and bzeef,
Because that from this dump you shall releued be:

A.ii.

And

And the Deuil with the Colier, the thief that seeks the thief,
Shall soon make you merry as shortly you shall see.
And sixth mirth for sadness is a sauce most sweet:
take mirth then with measure that best sauceth it.

FINIS.

Heer entreth Nichol Newfangle the vice laughing, and hath a
knaue of clubs in his hand which as soon as he speaketh: he
offreth vnto one of the men or boyes standing by.

¶ Ha, ha, ha, ha, now like vn to like it wil be none other,
Stoup gentle knaue and take bp your brother.

¶ Why is it so: and is it euen so indeed:

Why then may I say God send vs good speed,

And is euery one heer so greatly vnkinde,
that I am no sooner out of sight but quite out of minde.

¶ Hary this wil make a man euen weep for woer,
that on such a sodain no man wil him knowe.

¶ Though men be so dangerous now at this day,

Pet are women kinde woornis I dare wel say.

¶ How say you woman you that stand in the Angle,

were you neuer acquainted with Nichol newfangle?

¶ Then I see Nichol newfangle is quite forgot,

Pet you wil know me anon, I dare leopord a grote.

¶ Nichol newfangle is my name, doe you me not knowe:

my whole education to you I wil shewe.

¶ For first before I was born I remember very well,

that my granfier and I made a iourney into hell.

¶ Where I was bound prentice before my natiuitie,

to Lucifer him self such was mine agilitie.

¶ All kinde of sciences he taught vnto me,

that to the maintenance of pride might best agree.

¶ I learned to make golws with long flukes and winges:

I learned to make ruffs like Calues chitterlings.

¶ Caps, Hats, Cotes and all kinde of apparails,

And

And especially Breches as big as good barrels.
Shoes, Boots, Buskins, with many pritty toys,
All kinde of garments for men, women and boyes.
Know ye me not now I thought that at the last,
All acquaintance from Nichol newfangle is not past.
Nichol newfangle was and is and ever shalbe,
And there are but few that are not acquainted with me.
For so soon as my prentishood was once come out,
I went by and by the whole world about.

Heer the Deuil entreth but speaketh not yet.
Sancte benedicite, who haue we heere?
Tom tumbler or els some dauncing beare,
Body of me it were best goe no neere,
For ought that I see it is my Godfather Lucifer.
Whole prentice I haue been this many a day,
But no more words but mum, you shall heare what he wil say

This name Lucifer, must be written on his back and on
his brest.

¶ Howe mine oxen boy I am glad that thou art heere, L
¶ He speaketh to you sir, I pray you come nerr. N
¶ Nay y^e art euen he of who I am wel appaid. L
¶ Then speak aloud of, to come nie I am afraid. N
¶ Why lo my boy as though thou didst neuer see me? L
¶ Yes godfather but I am afraid it is now as often times it is N.
For if my dame & y^e haue been tumbling by the eares, (with theæ
As oftentimes you doe like a couple of great beares.
Thou carest not whom thou killest in thy raging minde,
Dost not thou remember since thou hurtedst me behinde?
This hole in thy fury didst thou disclose:
that now may a tent be put in as big as thy nose.
this was when my dame called theæ bottie nosed knaue:

But

But I am like to cary the mark to my grave,

¶ Oh my good boy be not afraid,
For no such thing hath happened as thou hast saide.

But come to me my hope and blesse thee I wil;

And see that my precepts thou doe fulfill.

¶ Wel Godfather if you will say ought to me in this case,

Speak for in faith I meane not to knell to that ill face.

If our Lady Walsingham had no fairer face and visage,

By the masse they were foles that would goe to her on pil-

¶ Wel boy it shall not greatly skil: (greimage.

Whether thou stand or whether thou kneele.

thou knowest what sciences I haue thee taught,

Which are able to bring the world to nought,

For thou knowest that through pride from heauen I was cast:

Euen vnto hell wherfore see thou make haste.

Such pride through new fashions in mens harts for to sowe.

that those that vse it may haue the like ouerthrowe.

From vertue procure men to set their minds aside:

And wholly imploy it to all sinne and pride.

Let thy new fangled fashions bear such a sway:

That a rascall be as proud as he that best may.

¶ Tush, tush, that is already brought to passe,

For a very skip-sack is prouder I were by the mas,

And seeketh to goe more gayer and braue:

then dooth a Lord though himselfe be a knaue.

¶ I can thee thank that so wel thou hast plaid thy part,

Such as doe so shall soon feel the smart.

Sith that thou hast thus don, there remaineth behinde,

that thou in a nother thing shew thy right kinde.

¶ Then good Godfather let me heare thy minde.

¶ Thou knowest that I am bothe proud and arrogant,

And with the proud I will euer be conuerfant.

I cannot abide to see men that are vicious,

accompany

Accompany themselves with such as be vertuous.
Whetherfore my minde is sith thou thy part canst play,
that thou adioyne like to like alway.

¶ I neuer loued that wel I swere by this day,

¶ What my boy?

¶ Your minde is sith I fast thre meales euery good friday.
that I eat nothing but Onions and leekes alway.

¶ May my minde is sith thou thy part canst play:
that thou adioyne like to like alway.

¶ Tush, tush godfather Deuil for that haue thou no care,
thou knowest that like wil to like quod the deuil to the Colier.

And thou shalt see that such a match I shall make anon:

That thou shalt say I am thy good good sweet sweet godson.

¶ I wil giue thee thanks when thou hast so down.

Heer entreteth the Colier.

¶ Wel Godfather no more words but mum,
for yonder comes the Collier as seemeth me,
By the mas he wil make a good mate for thee.
what olde acquaintance small remembraunce,
welcome to town with a very vengeance.

Now welcome Tom Colier giue me thy hand:

As very a knaue as any in Englank.

¶ By masse god amarcy my bænd Nichol,

¶ By God and welcome ientle tom lick hole,

¶ Cham glad to see thee mery my bænd nickol,
and how dost thou now a dayes good nickole.

¶ And nothing els but euen plain nickol?

¶ I pray thee tell me how dost god bænd lick hole.

¶ It is turned from nickol to lick hole with tom Colier

I say no more tom but hold thy nose there.

¶ May hold thy tung nickol til my nose dooth come:

So thou shalt take part and I shall take zonie.

¶ Wel tom Colier let these things passe away,

A. iiii.

I

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tel

tel me what market thou hast made of thy cole today,

¶ To every Buttel cha golde thre peck.

Loe here be the empty zacks on my neck.

Tha begide the whozons that of me ha bought,

But to begile me was their whole thought.

¶ But hast thou no conscience to begile thy poore neighbour?

¶ No mary so I may gain boz my labour.

¶ It is a common trade now a daies this is plain,

to cut one anothers throte boz lucar and game.

A small bout as the world is now brought to passe,

¶ Thou art a good fellow I swere by the masse.

As fit a companion for the Deuil as may be,

Lo godfather deuil this fellow wil I match with thee.

¶ And god tom colier thou art welcom to me.

¶ God a mercy god deuil cha glad of thy company.

¶ Like wil to like I say very wel.

¶ Godfather wilt thou daunce a litle before thou goo home to rest.

¶ I am content so that tom colier do agree.

¶ I wil neuer refuse Deuil to daunce with thee.

¶ Then godfather name what the daunce shall be.

¶ Tom Colier of Craydon hath solde his cole,

¶ why then haue at it by my fathers soule.

¶ Nichol newfangle must haue a giterne or some other instrument.

(if he may) but if they haue none they must doo as he doth.

place all three, and sing this song that followeth.

be doon though they haue an instrument.

The Song.

¶ Tom Colier of Craydon hath solde his Cole.

and made his market to day.

And now he daunceth with the Deuil.

for like wil to like alway.

¶ Wherefore let vs reioyce and sing.

let vs be mery and glad.

Sub.

With that the Collier and the Deuill,
this match and daunce hath made.

Now of this daunce we make an end.

With mirth and cheere with fort.

The Collier and the Deuill wil be,

much like to like alway.

Exit

¶ Aha, mary this is trunngling,

I had not thought the Deuill to be so cunning.

And by the mass Tom Collier is as good as he.

I see that like with like wil euer agree.

¶ Farwel maister Deuill boy, ich must be gone.

¶ Why then farwel my gentle frend tom.

¶ Farwel tom Collier, a knaue be thy comfort.

How saist thou Godfather, is not this trunngling?

¶ Thou art mine own boy, my blessing thou shalt haue.

¶ By my troth Godfather, that blessing I do not craue.

But if you goe your way I wil be my diligence.

Adwel in your absence as in your presence.

¶ But thou shalt saure me of agoe doubles.

that in thy darnings thou shalt haue the better success.

¶ Wherefore kneel down and say after me.

¶ When I deust wil haue it so, it must needs so be.

¶ What shal I say bottel noled godfather caust I say I do we.

¶ All halle On noble Prince of bel.

¶ All my daines comfallees fel down into the bog.

¶ I wil exalt thee aboue the clowdes.

¶ I wil sault thee and hang thee in the myrrores.

¶ Thou art the inhaunter of my renowing.

¶ Thou art haunce the hangman of Calles town.

¶ To thee be honour alone.

¶ To thee shall come our hobling Jone.

* Amen.

¶ Amen.

¶ Now farwel my boy, farwel hattely,

B.

As.

n. ¶ Is there neuer a knaue heer wil keep the Deuil company?
far wel godfather for thou must goe alone.
I pray thee come hether again anon. Exit Lucifer.
¶ Many here was a benediction of the Deuills good grace,
Body of me I was so afrayd I was like to bestench the place.
My buttocks made buttons of the new fashion.
¶ While the whoreson Deuil was making his salutation.
But by the masse I am as glad as euer was madge mare.
That the whoreson Deuil is toynd with the knaue Coliar.
As fit a match as euer could be pickt out.
What saist thou Jone with the long snout.
Tom tospor cometh in with a feather in his Hat.
But who comes yonder puffing as whot as a black pudding.
I holde xx. li. it is a cuttin. it a Cuse goe a gooding.
¶ Gogs hart and his guts is not this to bad.
Bloud, wounds and nables. it will make a man mad.
¶ I warant you here is a lusty one very braue.
I think anon he wil sweete him self a knaue.
¶ Many a mile haue I ridden and many a mile haue I gone.
Yet can I not finde for me a fit companion.
Many there be whioh my company would frequent.
¶ If to do as they do. I would be content.
They would haue me leaue off my pride and swearing.
My new fangled fashions and leaue of this wearing.
But rather than I such companions will haue.
I wil see a thousand of them laid in their graue.
¶ Similis similem. For quere such a one doe I seek.
As vnto my self in euery condition is like.
¶ Sic you are welcome ye them to be an honest man.
And I wil help you in this matter as much as I can.
If you tary heer a while I wil be in good loth.
I wil finde one as fit for you as a pudding for a friers mouth.
¶ I thank you my frend for your gentle offer to me.

I pray you tell me what your name may be.

‡ We think by your apperell you haue had me in regard:

I pray you of Nichole newfangle haue you neuer heard?

‡ Nichole newfangle: why we are of olde acquaintance,

‡ By my troth your name is quite out of my remembrance.

‡ At your first coming into England wel I wot,

You were very wel acquainted with Com tospot.

‡ Com tospot? Sancti amen, how you were out of my minde:

‡ You kno whē you brought into englad this newfangled kinde

That tospots and Ruffins with you were first acquainted,

‡ It is euen so Com tospot as thou hast saide.

‡ It is an olde saying, that mountains and hills neuer meet,

But I see that men shall meet, though they do not seek.

And I promise you more ioy in my hart I haue found:

Then if I had gained an hundred pound.

‡ And I am as glad as one had giuen me a groat,

that I haue met with thee Com tospot,

And seeing a mate thou wouldest to tame haue,

I wil ioyne thee with one that shalbe as very a knaue,

as thou art thy selfe you may beleue me:

thou shalt see anon what I wil doo for thee.

For you seek as very a knaue as you your selfe art:

For like wil to like quod the Devil to the Collier.

‡ Indeed Nichole newfangle ye say the veritie,

for like wil to like it wil none other wise be.

‡ Beholde Com tospot euen in pudding time:

Ponder commeth Rafe Roister an olde freend of mine.

By the mas for thee he is so fit a mate:

As Com and Tib for Bit and Kate.

Now welcome my freend Rafe Roister by the name,

‡ And I am glad to see you heere in this place.

‡ Bid him welcome, hark he can play a knaues part:

‡ My freend you are welcome with all my hart.

.r. ¶ God a mercy good fellowe, tel me what thou art.
 ¶ As very a knaue as thou, though the best be so bad.
 ¶ I am one, which of thy company would be very glad.
 .cr. ¶ And I will not your company refuse of a certaintie,
 So that to my conditions your maners doe agree.
 ¶ It should appere by your sayings y we are of one minde,
 For I knowe that cosseters and tospots come of one kinde.
 And as our names be much of one accord and much like,
 So I think our conditions be not far unlike.
 ¶ If your name to me you will declare and shewe,
 .cr. You may in this matter my minde the sooner knowe.
 ¶ Few words are best among friends this is true,
 .r. Therefore I shall briefly shew my name vnto you.
 Tom tospot it is, it need not be painted,
 wherfore with Rafe Roister I must needs be acquainted.
 ¶ In faith Rafe Roister if thou wilt be ruled by me,
 we will daunce hand in hand like knaues all thre.
 It is as impossible for the his company to deny:
 as it is for a Camel to crape through a needles eye.
 therfore bid him welcome like a knaue as thou art.
 .cr. ¶ By my troth Tom tospot you are welcome with all my hart,
 ¶ I thank you that mine acquaintance you will take in good part.
 And by my troth I will be your sworn brother.
 ¶ Cuth like will to like it will be none other.
 For the vertuous will alwaies the vertuous company seek out:
 A Gentleman neuer seeketh the company of a Lout.
 And Roisters and Ruffians do sober company eschue:
 For like will euer to like this is mooste true.
 .cr. ¶ Now friend tom tospot seeing that we are brethren sworn:
 And neither of our companies from other may be forborne.
 the whole trade of my life to the I will declare.
 ¶ And to tell you my properties also I shall not spare.
 .r. ¶ Then my matters if you will a while abide,
 .r.

Ye shall see two such knaves so lively described.
 that if hel should be raked even by and by indeed:
 Such another couple cannot be found I sweare by my creed.
 Go to sirs lay on your whole mindes:
 And I shall paint you out in your right kindes.
 first tom to spot, plead thou thy cause and thy name:
 And I wil sit in this chaire and give sentence on the same.
 I will play the Judge and in this matter give iudgement:
 How say you my maisters are you so content:
 ¶ By my troth for my part thereto I doe agree,
 ¶ I were to blame if any fault should be in me.
 ¶ Then that I be in office neither of you doe grudge:
 ¶ No indeed:
 ¶ Where learned you to stand capt before a Judge:
 You forwterly knaves, the w you all your manners at once.
 ¶ Why Nichole all we are content:
 ¶ And am I plaine Nichole: and yet it is in my arbitrement:
 to Judge which of you two is the veriest knave:
 I am maister Nichole Newfangle both gay and braue.
 For seeing you make me your Judge I sweare:
 I shall teach you both your leetings to knowe. He fighteth.
 * Stay your self I pray you hartely.
 ¶ I pray you be content and we wil be moze manerly.
 ¶ Nay I cannot put by such an injury.
 For seeing I am in office I wil be known therfore, He fighteth
 send your heds sirs for for I wil fight once moze, againe.
 ¶ I pray you be content good gentle maister Nichole,
 ¶ I neuer saw the like by gogs soule.
 ¶ Wel my maisters becaule you doe intend:
 to learn good manners and your conditions to amend.
 I wil haue but one sit moze and so make an end. He fighteth
 ¶ I pray you sit let vs no moze contend. againe.
 ¶ Wary this hath byethed me very wel:

Now let me heare how you your tales can tel,
 And I maister iudge will so bring to passe:
 that I will iudge who shalbe knaue of Clubs at Chastmaide.
 † Gogs wounds I am like Phalaris made a bul of brasse,
 † Thou art like a false knaue now and ever more was.
 † Nay I am like Phalaris that made a bul of brasse,
 As a cruell torment for such as did offend:
 and he him self first therein put was:
 Even so are we brought to this end.
 In ordaining him a iudge who will be honored as a God.
 So for our own tates we haue made a rod.
 † And I am serued as Haman that preparted,
 † How was he serued I pray thee do me tel,
 † Whom I speak of thou knowest not wel,
 † Thou art serued as Danylingham captain of the blacke,
 † Nay I am serued as Haman that preparted.
 A high patre of gallows for Mardocheus the Jew
 and was the first that theron was hanged.
 So I feele the smart of deale done to this is true.
 But hereafter I will teach to be wise,
 and ere I leape once I will look twice.
 † Wel Com to spot first let me heare thee,
 How canst thou proue thy self a better knaue then he?
 † You know that Com to spot hit n do me call,
 † A knaue thou hast alwaies been and ever shall.
 † By conditions I am sure ye know as wel as I,
 † A knaue thou wast both and so shalt thou dye.
 † But that you are a iudge I would say unto you,
 Knaues are Chyristen men els you are a lew.
 † He calleth me knaue by craft, do you not see?
 Sitra I will remember it when you think not on me.
 † Wel say what thou canst for thine own behoof:
 If thou proue thy self the better knaue by good proof.

well.

Thou

Thou must be the elder brother and haue the patrimony,
 And when he hath said then do thou reply.
 Euen Thomas a watrings, or Tiburn hill:
 to the falliest cheef of you both by my fathers wil.
 ‡ I pray you sit what is that patrimony?
 ‡ I pray you leaue your curtesie & I wil tel you by and by.
 if he be the more knaue the patrimony he must haue,
 But thou shalt haue it if þy proue thy self the betier knaue.
 A pce of ground it is that on beggers maner dooth holde:
 and who so deserues it shal haue it ye may be holde.
 Called Saint Thomas a watrings or els Tiburn hill:
 Giuen and so bequethed to the falliest knaue by wil.
 ¶ Then I trow I am he that this patrimony shal possesse,
 for I am com to pot to ble this trade doubtles.
 from morning til night I sit tossing the black bole:
 then come I home and pray for my fathers soule.
 Saying my pzalers with wounds, bloud, guts and hart,
 Swearing and swearing thus play I my parte.
 If any poze man haue in a whole week earned a groter:
 he shal spend it in one houre in tossing the pot.
 I ble to call seruants and poze men to my company,
 and make them spend all they haue vnthriftly.
 So that my company they think to be so good:
 that in short space their haire growes through their hood.
 ¶ But wil no gollips keep thee company now and than?
 ¶ Culy I am acquainted with many a woman.
 That with me wil sit in euery house and place:
 But then their husbands had need to fend their face.
 for when they come home they wil not be a feard:
 to shake the goodman, and sometime shaue his beard.
 And as for stemysh seruants I haue such a train:
 that wil quasse and carous, and therein spend their gain.
 from week to week I haue this company.

Wherefore I am worthy to haue the patrimony.

- n. ¶ Thus thou maist be called a knaue in grate,
And where knaues be scant thou maist goe for twaine.

But now Kafe Roister let me heare what thou canst say,

- ter * ¶ You know that Kafe roister I am called allway,
And my conditions in knauery so far doe surmount:
that to haue this patrimony I make mine account.
For I intice pong gentlemen all vertue to elsche we,
And to giue them to riotousnes, this is true,
Seruing men by me are also seduced:
that all in brauery theire mindes are confused.
then if they haue not themselues to maintaine,
to pick and to steale they must be faine.
And I may say to you I haue such a trame:
that some time I pitch a feld on Salisbury plain.
And much moze it need were I could say verily,
Wherefore I am worthy to haue the patrimony.

1. ¶ He that should iudge this matter had need haue moze wit
But seeing you haue referred it vnto my arbitrement: (then I
In faith I wil giue such equall iudgement,
that both of you shall be wel pleased and content.

ter ¶ Nay I haue not don for I can say much moze,

1. ¶ Wel I will not haue you contend any moze.
But this farme which to beggers manner doth appertaine,
I wil equally deuide betwene you twaine.

Are you not content that so it shall be?

¶ As it pleaseeth you so shall we agree.

1. ¶ Then see that anon you come bothe vnto me.

ter ¶ Sir for my parte I thank you hartely.

I promised of late to come vnto a company
which at Hob filchers for me doe remaine.

God be with you and anon I will come againe.

1. ¶ Farwel brother Kafe I will come to you anon.

Come

† Cum again for you that not so sodanly be gon. Heer entreceth } Ne
 see you not who comes yoder an old fred of yours haunce with a
 One that is redy to quasse at all houtes. } pot & singeth
 as foloweth.

He singeth the first two lines and speaketh the rest
 as stammering as may be.

Quas in hart and quas again, and quas about the house a:

And tolle the black bole to and fro, and I brinks them all carous a.

¶ Be go go gogs no lins chā cha drunk zo zo much to day: Ha

That be be be masse I cham a molle drunk ich da da dare zay.

Chud spe spe spend a go go good grofe;

tha that ich cud bi bürde my ca ca chaptain to to tom tospot.

¶ Sit down good haunce lest I lye on y ground. She scrith him Ne
 he knoweth not tom tospot I dare teopard xx. l. 2 in the chaire.

¶ He wil know me by and by I holde you a crown. T.

how dost thou seruant haunce how commeth this to passe:

¶ Wa ma master to to toucha cha cham glad by mas. Ha

Ca ca carouse to to the go go good tom, he drinketh.

¶ Holde by haunce I wil pledg the anon. T.

¶ Wel there is no remedy but I must be gone. R.R.

¶ Ca ta tary good belov, a wo wo word o: thwaine: Ha

If tho tho thou thy self do do do not come again,

Bi bi bid Philip Fleming cu cu can hether to me,

Wo bo bo: he must lead me home now ich doo zer.

¶ Then farwel Haunce I wil remember thy errant, R. I

he wil be her by and by I dare be his warrant. Exit R. Roister. Ne

¶ Farwel wafe roister with all my hart.

Come anon and I wil deliuer the thy part.

¶ Now haunce right now thou drunkst to me, T.

Drink again and I wil pledge the.

¶ Omni po po potenti, all the po po pot is emptie. Ha

¶ Why Haunce thou hast latin in thy belly me think, Ne

I thought there was no room for latin, there is so much drink.

C.

iche

¶ Ich le se lezud zome la la laten when ich was a la la lad,
 Ich ca ca can zay tu es nebulo ich lezud of my dad.
 And ich did once he he help the gre pre prest to zay masse,
 By gis ma man ich ha ben cunning when t was.
 ¶ I knew Haunce when he was as he saith,
 For he was once a Schoiler in good faith.
 But through my company he was with drazon from thence,
 through his riote and excessiue expence.
 Unto this trade which now you do in him see:
 So that now he is wholly addited to followe me.
 And one of my garde he is now become:
 Wel Haunce wel, thou wast once a whiite sonne.
 ¶ Now so God help me thou art a pritty felowe Haunce,
 A clene legged gentleman, and as proper a prounce.
 As any I know between this and fraunce.
 ¶ Pes by by God ich cud once daunce,
 ¶ I speak of no dauncing little belied Haunce:
 But seing thou saist thou canst so wel daunce.
 Let me see where thou canst daunce lively:
 ¶ Cha tha that ca ca can ich do ful trimly.
 He daunceth as euill fauoured as may be deuised, and
 in the dauncing he falleth down, and when he ri-
 seth he must grone.
 ¶ Rise again Haunce thou hadst almost got a fall:
 But thou dauncest trimly leggs and all.
 Body of me haunce how douth thy belly canst thou tel:
 By the masse he hath beraid his breeches me think by y sinell.
 ¶ I wil help thee by Haunce giue me thy hand, He riseth.
 ¶ By by mas ch ch ch was almost down I think verily,
 ¶ Wast thou almost down haunce: so think I.
 But thou art sick me think by thy greting,
 He grones like a brace when he is a moning.
 Hark how his head akes and his pulles do beat:

I think he wil be hanged his belly is so great.

‡ Go go God a mercy Com with all my hart:

‡ If thou canst not leap Haunce, let me see thee drink a quart.

And get thee out abroad into the aire:

‡ Cull he had moze need to keep his chaire.

Sit down Haunce and thou shalt see anon:

Philip Fleming wil come and fetch thee home.

Haunce sitteth in the Chaire, and snorteth as though
he were fast a sleep.

‡ I pray thee Tom tospot is this one of thy men:

‡ He is a companion of mine now and then.

‡ By the faith of my body such Carpenter such chyps,

And as the wise man saith, such letice such lips.

Foz like maister like men, like tuto? like Scholer,

And like wil to like, quoth the deuill to the Collier.

‡ There is no remedy foz it must needs so be,

Like wil to like you may beleue me.

Philip Fleming entereth with a Pot in his hand.

¶ Loe where Phillip Fleming commeth euen in pudding time: N

‡ He bringeth in his hand either good ale or els good wine. T

Phillip Fleming singeth these foure lines
following.

Troll the hole and drink to me, and troll the hole again a:

And put a browne toll in the pot, foz Phillip Flemmings bzaia a:

And I shall tolle it to and fro, euen round about the house a:

God hostice now let it be so I bzyinks them all carous a.

¶ Mary har is a pot of nappy good Ale,

As pure as Christall pure and stale.

Now a Crab in the fire were woorth a good grotr:

That I might quasse with my captain Tom tospot.

What? I can no sooner wish, but by and by haue:

God saue mine eye sight me think I see a knaue.

What Captain how goeth the world with you?

¶ Why now I see the olde prouerb to be true:

Like wil to like both with Chyristian turk and iew.

¶ Mary Phillip euen as I was bound to doo.

¶ Kafe Roister tolde me I should finde Haunce heere,
where is he that he dooth not appeere?

¶ I holde twenty pound the knaue is blinde,
turn about Phillip Fleming and look behinde.
Hast thou drunk so much that thine eyes be out?

Lo how he snorteth like a lazy iout.

Goe to him for he sleepeth sound.

two such paunches in all England can scant be found.

¶ Why Haunce art thou in thy prayers so deuoutly?
a wake man and we two wil quasse together stoutly.

★ Domine dominus noster;

We think I cha spide thre knaues in a cluster.

¶ Stay a while for he saith his Pater noster,

Sanctum benedictum what haue I dreamed?

By goos nomms chad thought ich had been in my bed.

Cha dreamed such a dreame that thou wilt meruaile to heere,

We thought ich was drowned in a barell of Beere.

And by and by the Barrell was turned to a Ship:

Which me thought the poinde made liuely to skip.

And ich did sail therein from Flaunders to Fraunce:

At last ich was brought hether among a sort of knaues by

¶ Lo Haunce heer is Phillip Fleming come now, (chaunce
we wil goe drink together now, how saist thou?

¶ I pray the good Wilip lead me away,

¶ Giue me thy hand and I wil the stay.

¶ How say you maister Nichol wil you keep vs company?

¶ Goe before maister lickhole and I wil come by and by.

¶ Gates matched together departe you thre,

I wil come after you may beleue me.

they

They three are gone together, and Nicholl's newfangle remaineth
behinde, but he must now speak till they be within.

* Ha ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

Now three knaues are gone, and I am left alone:
my selfe heere to solace:

Utiel down gentle Ione, why begin you to mone:
though they be gone I am in place.

And now I will daunce, now will I prauince,

for why I haue none other worke:

Snip snap Butter is no bone meat:

Knaues flesh is no Doxhe.

Hey tissy tossy an Ole is a bird,

Jack a napes hath an olde face:

You may beleue me at one bare word,

how like youth is in my case:

A peece of ground they thinke they haue found,

I will tel you what it is:

For I them tolde that of beggars manner it had holde,

a staffe and a wallet I was.

Which in short space, euen in this place,

of me they shall receiue:

For when that their dyist, hath spent all their thair,

their mindes I shall deceiue.

I trove you shall see more knaues come to me,

which whensoever they doe:

they shall haue their meed, as they deserue indeed.

as you shal shortly see these two.

When they doe pretend to haue a good end,

mark wel then what shall ensue:

A Bag and a Bottle, or els a Rope knottle,

these shall they proue to true.

But mark wel this game, I see this ger frame.

C. iij.

No

Lo who cometh now in such haste:
It is Cutbert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse,
Goe rown now a litle caste.

Heere entreth Cutbert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse, Cutbert cutpurse must haue in his hand a purse of money or Counters in it, and a knife in one hand and a whetstone in the other, and Pierce must haue money or counters in his hand and gingle it as he cometh in.

¶ By Gods wounds it doth me good to the hart:
to see how clely I plaide this parte.
¶ While they stood thrusting together in the throng:
I began to goe them among.
And with this knife which heere you do see:
I cut a way his purse clely.
¶ See to your purses my maisters be ruled by me:
For knaues are abroad therefore beware:
You are warned and yet take not heed, I do not care.
¶ And also so soon as I had espied
A woman in the throng whose purse was fat:
I took it by the strings and cleup it bntide,
She knew no more of it, then Gib our Cat.
¶ Yet at the last she hied apace,
And said the money in my hand she saw.
¶ Thou whoze said I, I wil haue an action of the case,
And seing thou saist so I will trye the lawe.
¶ How saist thou Pierce pickpurse art thou not agrard:
these two bottles equally to deuide.
¶ Then let vs count the totall summe,
And deuide it equally when we haue done.
¶ My maisters heere is a good fellowe that would faine haue
¶ What Nicole Newfangle be you heere? (some.
So God help me I am glad with all my hart:
then

¶ Then ere we depart we will haue some cheere.
And of this booty you shall haue your parte.

¶ I thank you both hartely.

And I will doe somewhat for you by and by:

Are not you two sworn brothers in euery bootye?

¶ Yes that we are truly.

¶ Then will I tell you newes which you doe not knowe:

Such newes as will make you glad I trowe.

But first tel me this Pierce Pickpurse,

Whether is the elder thou or Cutbert cutpurse,

¶ In faith I think we are both of one age well nye.

¶ I suppose there is no great difference truly.

But wherfore ask you? I pray thee tell me why.

¶ I will tell you the cause without delay,

For a peece of land is fallen as I heare say.

A proper plot it is this is most true.

Which by succession must come to one of you.

For thou Cutbert Cutpurse, wast Cutbert cutthrottes sonne,

And thou Pierce pickpurse, by that time thou hast don,

Canst deriue thy pedigree from an ancient house:

thy father was comi the f, thy mother tib louce.

This peece of land wherto you inheritours are,

Is called the land of the two legged mare.

In this peece of ground there is a mare in deed:

Which is the quickest mare in England for spæde.

Wherfore if you will come anon vnto me:

I will put you in possession and that you shall see.

¶ I cannot beleue that such luck is happened vnto vs.

¶ It is true that I to you doe discourse.

¶ If you will help vs to this peece of ground:

Both of vs to you that think our selues bound.

¶ Yes in faith you shall haue it, you may beleue me,

I will be as good as my word, as shortly you shall see.

When brother Pierce we may think our selues happy,
that euer we were with him acquainted:

¶ Euen so we may of certaintie,
that such good luck vnto vs hath happened.

But brother Cuthbert is it not best,
to goe in for a while and distribute this booty:
where we thre wil make some feast.
And quasse together and be mery.

¶ What say you Nichol? I doe agree,
Heere entreth Vertuous liuing.

¶ But soft a while be ruled by me.

Look yonder a little doe you not see.

Who commeth yonder? a while we wil abide,

Let him say his pleasure and wee wil stand aside.

¶ Oh gracious God how wonderfull are thy works:
how highly art thou of all men to be praised:

Of Christians, Saracins, Jewes and also Turkes,

thy glory ought to be meted and raised.

What ioye hast thou prepared for the vertuous life,

And such as haue thy name in loue and awe?

thou hast promised saluation to man, Childe and wife,

that thy precepts obserue and keep wel thy lawe.

And to the vertuous life what death is sure?

Vertutis premium honor. Truly death saies:

Honour is the guerdon for vertue due,

And eternall saluation at the latter day.

How clere in conscience is the vertuous life:

the vicious hath conscience as heauy as lead:

their conscience and their downy downy as lead:

And although they lurye in sin they are dead.

¶ God giue you good ioye in fit how doe you today?

¶ God blesse you also both now and alway.

I pray you with me haue you day acquainted.

¶ Pea mary I am an olde frend of yours perchaunce.

¶ If it be so I merueille very much,

That the dulnes of my wit should be such,

That you should be altogether out of my memory,

tell me your name I pray you hartely.

¶ By the faith of my body you will appose me by and by.

But indeed I was but little when I was first borne,

And my mother to tell me my name thought it scozne.

¶ I wil neuer acquaint me with such in any place,

As are ashamed of their names by Gods grace.

¶ I remember my name now it is come to minde,

I haue mused much before I could it finde.

Pickle newfangle it is, I am your olde frend.

¶ My frend: mary I doe thee desye,

And all such company I doe deny.

For thou art a companion for roisters and ruffins,

And not fit for any vertuous companions.

¶ And in faith art thou at plaine defiance:

then I see I must goe to mine olde acquaintance.

¶ Wel Cusbert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse, we must goe to- (gither

for like wil to like quoth the Deuill to the Colier.

¶ Indeed thou saist true it must needs be so,

for like wil euer to like goe.

And my conditions and thine so farre do disagree,

That no familiarity betwixt vs may be.

For thou nourishest vice both day and night,

My name is vertuous life and in vertue is my delight.

So vice and vertue cannot together be vnited,

But the one the other hath alwaies spighted.

For as water quencheth fier and the flame doth suppres,

So vertue hateth vice and seeketh a redres.

¶ Tush if he be so dangerous let vs not him esteem,

And he is not for our company I see very wel:

For if he be so holy as he doth seem,
We and he differ as much as Heauen and Hell.

¶ You knowe that like wil to like alway.

And you see how holily he is now bent:

To seek his company why do we assay?

I promise you, do you what you wil, I wil not consent.

For I passe not for him be he better or be he worse,

¶ Friend if you be wise beware of your purse.

For this fellow may do you good when all comes to all,

If you chauce to lose your purse in Cutpurse hall.

But in faith fare ye wel with of our company you be wery:

We wil goe to a place where we wil make mery.

For I see your company and ours do far differ,

For like wil to like quoth the Deuill to the Colier.

¶ Well let vs be gon and bid him adue.

For I see this proverbe proueth very true.

¶ Then let vs goe to Hob filchers house,

where we wil be mery and quasse carous.

And there shall we finde Com to spot with other moe.

¶ Fortunate for vs therefore let vs goe.

¶ Then seeing we are all of one minde:

Let vs three go and leaue a knaue here behinde, Excunt they iij.

They sing this song as they goe out from the place.

¶ God hostes lay a Crab in the fire, and broil a mess of Shous a:

That we may taste the hole so and fro, and drinke them all carous a

¶ And I wil pledge Com to spot till I be as drunke as a mouse a:

Who so wil drinke to me all day, I wil pledge them all carous a.

¶ When we wil not spare for any cost, so long as we be in a house a:

Then hostes fill the pot again, for I pledge them all carous a. Finis.

¶ Oh wicked imps that haue such delight,

In euil conuersation, wicked and abhominable:

And from vertues lore withdraw your selues quite,

And lean to vice most vile and detestable.

How prone and ready we are vice to imue,

How

How dese we be gad counsaile to heare?

How strange we make it our harts to reue?

How little we haue Gods threats in feare?

When this is spoken he must pause and then say as followeth.

Saint Augustine saith in his 5. booke de ciuitate Dei,

Coniuncta sunt edes Verutis et honoris (saith he)

The house of Vertue and Honour loyned together be.

And so the way to Honours house is disposed,

that through vertues house he must needs passe:

Or else from honour he shall soone be depoled,

and brought to that point that he before was.

But if through vertue honour be attained:

The path to saluation may soon be gained.

Some there be that do fortune prefer,

Some esteeme pleasure more then vertuous life:

But in mine opinion all such do erre,

for vertue and fortune be not at strife.

Where vertue is, fortune must needs growe:

But fortune without vertue hath soon the ouerthrowe.

Thise happy are they that do vertue embrace,

for a Crowne of gloze shall be their rewarde:

Sathan at no time may him any thing deface,

for God ouer him wil haue such regarde.

That his foes he shall soon tread vnder his foot:

And by Gods permission, pluck them by by the root.

It booteth not vice against vertue to stir,

for why vice is feeble and of no force:

But Virtus eterna preclaraque habentur.

wherefore I would all men would haue a remorse.

And eschue euil company vile and pernicious.

And as the end of vertue is honour and felicitie,

So mark wel the end of wickednes and vice:

Shame in this world and pain eternally.

Whether you that are here learn to be wise,
 And the end of the one, with the other wayes:
 By that time you haue heard the end of this play.
 But why doe I thus much say in the praise of Vertue?
 With the thing praise worthy need no praise at all:
 It praiseth it self sufficiently this is true,
 Which chaleteth away sinne as bitter as gall.
 And where Vertue is, it need not to be praised:
 For the renoune therof shall soon be raised.
 O Vertuous life God rest you merp,
 To you I am come to attend,
 O God fame you are welcome hartely,
 I pray you who did you hether send?
 O Euen Gods promise hath sent me vnto you,
 Wolling me not from you to depart:
 But alwaies to giue attendance due,
 And in no wise from you to part.
 For god of his promise hath moste liberally,
 Sent me god fame to you Vertuous life:
 Whether by it may be seene manifestly,
 Gods great zeale to vertue both in man and wife.
 For why they may be sure that I god fame,
 From the Vertuous life will stray:
 Whether by honour and renown may grow to their name,
 And eternall saluation at the latter day.
 O God is gracious and full of graue at merp,
 To such as in vertue let their whole delight:
 Dowring his benefites vpon them abundantly:
 O man what meanest thou with sauitour to fight?
 Come vnto him for he is full of merp.
 The fountaine of vertue and of godlines the spring,
 Come vnto me and thou shalt liue euertlastingly:
 He doth not require thee any price to bring.

Venite ad me omnes qui laboratis et onerati estis

et ego reficiam vos.

Come vnto me ye that trauaile (saith he,
And such as with sinne are heuily laden:
And of my selfe refreshed you shall be.

Repent, repent, your deeds shall be down troden,

Woe God fame with God of his goodnes,

Hath hether sent you on me to attend:

Let vs giue thanks to him with humblenes,

And perswade with all men their liues to amend.

¶ Vertuous life thereto I do agree,

For it becommeth all men to do so:

But beholde ponder cometh Gods promise as cometh to me,

And honour with him cometh also.

¶ Such godly company liketh me very well: { Enter gods pro-
for vicio^{us} me fro our companie would expel { mises and Ho- Ver
hour with him.

¶ God rest you merry both, and God be your good guide:

¶ We are now come to the place where we must abide,

For from you Vertuous life, I honour may not slide.

¶ I am Gods promise which is a thing etern,

And nothing more sure then his promises may be:

A sure foundation to such as will learn,

Gods precepts to obserue then must they needs ser.

Honour in this world, and at last a Crown of glorie,

Cure in ioy and mirth, and neuer to be sorie,

Wherefore oh Vertuous life to thee we do repaire,

As messenger from God, his promise to fulfil:

And therefore sit you downe in this Chaire,

For to indue you with honour it is Gods promise and will.

Vertuous liuing sitteth downe in the Chaire.

¶ Now take this Crowne in hand as a token of vicio^{us} ye,

This Crowne from my head to you I shall giue:

I crowne you with it as one moile worthy.

of

D. 11.

And

And see that all vice ye doo punish and graue,
For in this world I honour with you shall remain.
And good fame from you cannot refrain:
And after this life a greater Crown you shall attain.
c. ¶ What hart can think: or what tung can expresse:
The great goodnes of God which is almightye:
Who seeth this, and seeke th not vice to suppress,
Honour, good fame, yea and life everlastingly.

Thy name be praised oh Lord therfore:

And to thee only be glory and honour.

a. ¶ Sith Gods promise hath brought honour in to this place,
I will for a while leaue you thre alone:
For I must depart now for a litle space,
But I shal come to you again anon. Exit Good fame.

ro. ¶ Gods promise is infallible, his word is most true,
And to ground thereon a man may be holden:
As Scripture doth testify and declare vnto you,
On which foundation your building you may beholde:
For vertuous rulers the fruit of felicitie doo reap:

And the reward of fame, & honour to themselves they heape.

r. ¶ Seing we haue now indued him with p. crown and sword,
Which is due vnto him by Gods promise and word:
Let vs thre sing vnto God with one accord.

ro. ¶ To sing praises vnto God it liketh wel me:
¶ And I also with you thre to doo agree.
A pleasant noyse to Gods eares, it must needs bring:
That Gods promise, Honour, and Vertue shall we sing.

They sing thus long following:
This must be sung after every verse.
Lifes bar, honoure, and the crown
Vertue in mortall seek for to win.

Who so to vertue dooth apply,
God fame and Honour must obtaine:
And also liue eternally,
For Vertuous life this is the gaine.
Life is but shorte, &c.

Gods promise sure will neuer faile,
His holy word is a perfect ground,
The soule of vertue by man assaile,
Where treasure alway dooth abound.
Life is but shorte, &c.

To thee alone be laud and praise,
Oh Lord thou art so merrifull:
Who neuer faileth at all assaies,
To aid and help the pittifull.
Life is but shorte hope not therein.

FINIS. Exeunt omnes
Heere entreth Nichole Newfangle, and bringeth in
with him a Bagge, a Staffe, a Bortle, and two hal-
ters, going about the place shewing it to the audi-
ence, and singing this.

Trim marchandise trim trim, trim marchandise trim trim,
He may sing this as oft as he thinketh good.

O Mary heere is merchandise who list for to buy any,
Come for your loue and buy for your money. New
This is the land which I must distribute anon:
According to my promise or I begon.
For why Com to pot since he went hence:
Hath increas'd a Noble iust vnto nine pence.
And Kate coister, it may none other wise be chosen:
Hath brought apack of woul to a faire paire of hosen.
This is good thist learn it who shall:
And now a couple of selowes, are come from cutpurse hall:
And thete haue they brought many a purse to work:
Noe heere is get that will make theit necks to crack.

For I promised Tom to spot and Rafe roister a piece of Land,
Loe here it is redy in my right hand.
A wallet and Bottle, but it is not to be sold.
I tolde them before that of beggers maner it did holde.
And for Cutbert Cutpurse, and Pierce Pickpurse heere is
This is the land of the two legged Mare. (good fare,
which I to them promised and deuide it with discretion:
Shortly you shall see I wil put them in possession.
How like you this Marchandise my maisters? is not this
A wallet, a Bottle, a Staffe and a String. (trim:
In faith Rafe roister is in good case as I suppose,
for he hath lost all that he hath, saue his Doublet and his
And Tom to spot is euen at the same point: (Hose,
for he would loose a Lim or leopard a foot.
But beholde yonder they come bothe, now all is gone and
I knowe their errand and what is their intent. (spent,

Heere entred Rafe Roister and Tom To spot in their Doublet and
their Hose, and no Cap nor Hat on their head, sauing a night
Cap because the strings of the beards may not be seene, and Rafe
Roister must curle and ban as he cometh in.

¶ Wel, be as he may is no banning,
But I feare that when this yeere shall come to scanning.
The land to the which we did wholly trust:
Shall be gone from vs and we cast in the dust.
cr. ¶ Gogs blood if Nichol newfangle ferue vs so:
we may say that we haue had a shrewd blowe.
For all that I had is now lost at dice,
My Sword, my Bucklet and all at sink and sicke,
My Cote, my Cloke, and my Hat also,
And now in my Doublet and my Hose I am faine to goe.
Therefore if Nichol newfangle help not now at a pinch:

I am bndoon for land I haue not an inch.
 ¶ By Gogs wounds euen so it is with me:
 I am in my doublet and my hose as ye see.
 For all that I had dooth lye at pled ge for Me:
 By the masse I am as bare as my naile.
 Not a Crosse of money to blesse me haue I.
 But I trow we shall meet with Nichol newfangle by and by.
 ¶ Turn hether turn hether, I say fir knaue:
 For I am euen he that you so fain would haue.
 ¶ What Maister Nichole are you hert all this while?
 ¶ I think I am here or els I doe thee begile.
 ¶ So God help me I am glad that you be in sight:
 For in faith your presence hath made my hart light.
 ¶ I wil make it lighter anon I trowe:
 My maisters I haue a peece of la: id for you, doe you not knowe?
 ¶ Mary that is the cause of our hether tescote:
 For now we are void of all toy and comfort.
 ¶ You see in what care we now stand in,
 And you heard vs also euen now I woen.
 Wherefore good maister Nichol let vs haue this land now:
 And we shall think our selues much bound vnto you.
 ¶ You know that I this land must deuide,
 Which I shall doe but a while abide.
 All thy goods for Ale at pled ge be:
 And thou shalt a paire of Dice hath made thee free.
 First Rafe Roister come thou vnto me. { He giueth the bag
 Because thou hast lost euery whit at dice, { to R. register and the
 take þ this bag to cary Bread and cheese. { bottle to T. Tospor.
 And take thou this bottle and mark what I shall say:
 If he chaunce to eat the bread and Cheese by the way.
 Doe thou in this matter follow my counsel:
 Drink vp the drink and knock him about the head with the
 And beacule that Rafe is the Elder knaue:

E.

(bottle
this

this staffe also of me thou shalt haue:

1. **¶** But where is the land that to vs you promised:

¶ In faith good fellowes my promise is performed.

¶ By Gogs blood I thought that it would be so,

¶ This must you haue whether you will or no.

¶ Els fall to worke with Shouel and with spade:

¶ For begging now must be your chiefeest trade.

1. **¶** Gods hart can I away with this life:

¶ To beg my bread from doore to doore:

¶ I wil rather cut my throte with a knife,

¶ then I will liue thus beggerly and poore.

¶ By Gogs blood rather then I wil it assaye:

¶ I wil rob and steale, and keep the hye way.

¶ Wel kafe roister seeing we be in this miserie,

¶ And labour we cannot and to beg it is a shame:

¶ Yet better it is to beg most shamfully,

¶ then to be hanged and to theuery our selues to frame.

v. **¶** Now my masters learn to beware:

¶ But like will to like quod the Deuil to the Coliar.

cr. **¶** Oh Lord why did not I consider this before,

¶ what shoud of roisting be the finall end:

¶ Now the horse is stolen I shut the stable doore,

¶ Alas that I had time my life to amend.

¶ Time I haue I must needs confesse,

¶ But yet in misery that time must be spent:

¶ Seeing that my life I would not redresse,

¶ But wholy in riot I haue it all spent.

¶ Wherfore I am now brought to this exigent.

¶ But the time past cannot be called again this is no nay,

¶ wherfore all you heere take example by me:

¶ Time tarieth no man but passeth still away,

¶ take time while time is for time dooth flie:

¶ Use wel your youthfull yeres and to vertues loze agree.

For if I to vertue had any respect,
this misfortune to me could not haue chaunced:
But because into vice I was a libred,
to no good fame may I now be aduanced.
My credit also is now quite stanchd.
Wherefore I would all men my wofull case might see:
that I to them a mirrour might be.

¶ Oh all ye parents to you I doe say,
Haue respect to your Children and for their education:
Least you answer therfore at the latter day,
And your meed shall be eternall damnation.
If my parents had brought me vp in vertue and learning,
I should not haue had this shamefull end:
But all licenciously was my vp bringing.
Wherefore learn by me your faults to amend.
But neither in vertue, learning, nor yet honest trade:
was I bred by my living for to get:
therfore in misery my life away must fade,
for vicious persons beholde not the net.
I am in the snare I am caught with the gin:
And now it is too late, I cannot again begin.

¶ This gearre would haue been looked too before:
But now my maisters you are vpon the skore.
Be packing I say and get you hence:

Learn to say I pray godd maister giue me nine pence.

¶ Thou villain art only the cauler of this woe:
therfore thou shalt haue some thing of me ere I goe.

¶ Thou hast giuen me a Bottle here:
But thou shalt drinke first of it be it Ale or beere.

Raseroister beateth him with the staffe, and Tom Tosspot
with the bottell.

¶ Take this of me before I goe hence,
¶ Take this of me in parte of recompence.

Exeunt

Exij.

Row

¶ Now am I giuen to play the maister of fence.

Come no naxt me you knaues for your life:

Least I stick you both with this wood knife.

Back I say back thou sturdy beggar:

body of me they haue tane away my daggar

{ They haue him
down & beat him
he crieth for help

¶ Now in faith you whoxson take heed I pouadise:

How you dwany moze yong men intice.

¶ Now farwell thou hast thy iust mæd:

¶ Now we goe a begging God send vs good sped.

Rafe roister and Tom Tosspot goeth out, and Seueritie the
Iudge entreth, And Nichol Newfangle lieth on the
ground groning.

¶ That vpright iudgement without parcialitie,

Be ministred duely to ill dowers and offenders:

I am one whose name is Seueritie,

Appointed a Iudge to suppress the euil dowers.

Not for hatred no, yet for malice:

But to aduaunce vertue and suppress vice.

Wherfore Isidorus these words doth say:

Non est Iudex si in eo non est Iusticia.

He is not a Iudge that Justice doth want:

But he that trueth and equitie doth plant.

Tully all these words doth expresse:

which words are very true doubtlesse.

Semper iniquus est, qui aut inuidet aut fauet,

They are vnrighfull Iudges all:

that are either enuious or els partiall.

¶ Help me by god sir for I haue got a fall.

¶ What cause haue you my friend thus heauiely to grone

¶ Oh sir I haue good cause to make great mone.

Here were two fellows but right now:

That I think haue killed me I make God a bow.

I pray you tel me, am I alive or am I dead:

fellowe

¶ fellowe it is more need for thee to be in the bed.
 Then to lye here in such soot as thou dost:
 ¶ In faith I should haue laid some of the knaues in the dust.
 ¶ If I had had your sword right now in presence:
 I would haue had a leg or an arme ere they had gon hence.
 ¶ Who is it that hath done thee this injury?
 ¶ A couple of beggers haue done me this vilany.
 ¶ I see if leueritie should not be executed,
 One man should not lye by another:
 If such iniuries should not be confuted.
 The Childe would not regard father nor mother.
 Giue me thy hand and I will help thee,
 ¶ Hold fast your sword then I pray you hartely.
 ¶ Now frend it appeereth vnto me:
 That you haue been a traualer of the Cuntre.
 And such as doe trauaile doe heare of things down:
 As wel in the cuntre as in the Citie of London.
 How say you my frend can you tel any newes?
 ¶ That can I, for I came lately from the strewes.
 There are knenes abroad you may belæue me.
 As in this place shortly you shall see.
 No more words but muni and stand a while aside:
 Ponder commeth two knaues therfore abide.

Enter Cutbert Cutpurse and Pierce Pickpurse.

¶ By gogs wounds if he help not now we are vndon,
 By the mas for my part I wot not where to run.
 ¶ We be so pursued on euery side:
 that by gogs hart I wot not where to abide.
 ¶ Euery Constable is charged to make priuy search:
 So that if we may be got, we shal be throwen ouer the perch.
 ¶ If Nichol ne wofangie help not now in our need:
 we are like in our busines ful euil to speed.
 therfore let vs make no more delay.

E. iij.

But

But seek him out of hand and be gone away,

¶ Soft my maisters a while I you pray,

For I am heer for whom you do seek:

For you know that like wil neuer from like.

I promised you of late a pece of land:

which by and by shall fall into your hand.

¶ What maister Nichol, how do you to day?

¶ For the passion of God maister Nichol help to rid vs a way,

And help vs to the land wherof you did say.

that we might make money of it by and by:

For out of the Realm we purpose to flee.

¶ Mary I wil help you I sweare by all hallowes:

I wil not part from you till you come to the gallows.

No noble Seueritie these be they without doubt,

On whom this rumoz of the euery is gon about.

Therefore my maisters heer is the snare:

that shall lead you to the land called the two legged mare.

He putteth about each of their necks,

an Halter.

¶ My frend holde them fast in that plight:

¶ Then come and help me with your sword, for I feare they

¶ Striue not my maisters for it shall not auail: (wil fight.

But a while giue eare vnto my counsaile.

Your owne words haue condemned you for to dye:

therefore to God make you your selues redy.

And by and by I wil send one which for your abusion,

Shall lead you to the place of execution.

¶ Help to tye their hands before ye be gon. He helpeth to tye them

¶ Now they are bound I wil send one to you anon. Exit

¶ Wh my maisters how like you this play?

You shall take possession of your land to day.

I wil help to brydle the two legged mare,

And both you for to ride need not to spare.

Now

Now so God help me I swore by this Bzead,
 I meruaile who shall play the knaue when you twain be dead.
 ¶ Oh cursed caitiue borne in an ill howe,
 Woe vnto me that euer I did thee knowe:
 For of all iniquitie thou art the howe,
 the seed of Sathan thou dost alwaies sowe.
 thou only hast giuen me the ouerthrowe.
 Woe woorth the house wherin I was borne,
 woe woorth the time that euer I knewe thee,
 for now in misery I am forloyme.
 Oh all youth take example by me.
 flee from euill company as from Serpent ye would flee:
 for I to you all a mirrour may be.
 I haue been daintily and delicately bred,
 But nothing at all in vertues lore:
 And now I am but a man dead,
 Hanged I must be which greueth me full sore.
 Note well the end of me therfore.
 And you that fathers and Mothers be:
 Bring not by your Children in to much libertie,
 ¶ Sith that by the law we are condemned,
 Let vs call to God for his mercie and grace:
 And exhort that all vice may be amended,
 while we in this world haue time and space.
 And though our liues haue licenciously been spent,
 Yet at the last to God let vs call:
 For he heareth such as are ready to repent,
 And desireth not that sinners should fall.
 Now are we ready to suffer, come when it shall.
 Here entreth Hankin Hangman.
 ¶ Come Hankin hangman let vs two cast lots,
 And between vs deuide a couple of coates.
 take thou the one and the other shalbe mine:

E. iiii.

Come

Come Hankin Hangman thou camst in good time.

They take off their Cotes and deuide them.

¶ Thou shouldst haue one (Richol) I swere by the masse:

for thou bringest work for me dayly to passe.

And through thy means I get more cotes in a yere:

then all my liuing is worth beside, I swere.

¶ Therfor Richol newfangle we depart neuer,

for like wil to like quoth the Deuil to the Collier.

¶ Now farwel Hankin hangman, farwel to thee:

¶ Farwel Richol newfangle come you two with me.

Hankin goeth out and leadeth the one in his right hand, and the other in his left, hauing halters about their necks.

8. ¶ Ha, ha, ha, there is a brace of hounds wel worth a dozen
he holde the huntsman leadeth away: (Crowns)

I think in twenty towens, on hills and eke on dovens,

they taken haue their pray.

So well liked was their hunting on hill and eke on mountain,
that now they be by in a leace:

To keep within a string it is now a gay thing,

do all you holde your peace.

Why then good gentle boy, how likest thou this play:

no more but say thy minder:

I swere by this day, if thou wilt this assay,

I wil to thee be kinde.

This is wel brought to passe of me I swere by the masse,

some to hang and other some to beg:

I would I had Balams ass to cary me where I was,

how say you little Meg.

Rafe roister and Toin tospot are not now worth a grote,

So wel with them it is:

I would I had a pot for now I am so hot,

by the masse I must goe pisse.

Philip Fleming and Haunce hath daunst a pitty dance;

that

that all is now spent out:
And now a great mischaunce came on while they did prauice,
they lye sick of the gout.
And in a spittle house, with little Laurence louse,
they be faine to dwell:
if they eate a moucel of louse, or els a roasted mouce,
they think they do fare well.
But as for pierce pickpurse, and cutbert cutpurse,
you saw them both right now:
with them it is much worse, for they do ban and curse,
for the halter shall them bow.
Now if I had my nag, to see the world wag.
I would straight ride about:
Gins do fill the bag, I would not passe a rag,
to hit you on the snout.

Heer entreth the Deuil.

¶ Ho, ho, ho, mine own boy make no more delay,
But leap vpon my back straight way.
¶ Then who shall holde my stirrop while I goe to horse?
¶ Cully for that do thou not fyce,
Leap vp I say, leap vp quickly.
¶ Who hall who, and I will come by and by.
Now for a paire of spurs I would giue a good grote:
to try whether the sade death amble or trot.
Farwel my maisters til I come again:
For now I must make a iourney into Spaine.

He rideth away on the deuils back.

Heer entreth Vertuous life and Honour.

¶ Oh worthy Diadem, oh iewel most precious.
Oh vertue which doth all worldly things excell:
How worthy a treasure thou art to the vertuous
thy praise no pen can write ne tung tel,

f.

for

For I who am called vertuous life,
 Haue in this world both honour and dignitie:
 Immortall fame of man, childe and wife,
 Dayly waiteth and attendeth on me.
 The commoditie of vertue in me you may behold,
 the enormities of vice you haue also seene:
 Therefore to make an end we may be bolde,
 And pray for our noble and vertuous Quene.
 † To doe so vertuous life it is our bounden dutye,
 And because we must doe so before we doe end,
 To aid vs therein Good fame commeth verily,
 which dayly and hourely on you dooth attend.

Heer entreth Good fame,

¶ Vertuous life doe what you list.
 to pray or to sing I wil you assist.
 ¶ O Lord of hostes, oh King almightie,
 poure down thy grace vpon our noble Quene:
 Vanquish her foes Lord that dayly and nightly,
 through her thy lawes may be sincerely seen.
 † The honourable Counsaile also O Lord preserve,
 The Lords both of the Clergie and of the temporalitie:
 Graunt that with meeknes they may thee serue,
 Submitting to thee with all humilitie.
 ¶ Oh Lord preserve the commons of this Realme also,
 poure vpon them thy heavenly grace:
 To aduance vertue and vice to ouerthrowe,
 that at the last in Heauen with thee they may haue a place.

AN EN.

FINIS.

q.

Vlpian

Fulwell.

A Song

A Song.

Where like to like is matched so,
that vertue must of force decay:
There God with vengeance, plagues and woe,
by iudgement iust must needs repay.

For like to like the worldlings cry:
Although both like doe grace desire.

¶ And where as Sathan planted hath,
in vicious mindes a sinful trade:

There like to like doth walke this path,
by which to him, like they are made.

So like with like reward obtain:

To haue their meed in endles paine.

¶ Likewise in faith where matched be,
and where as God hath planted grace:

There doe his children stil agree,
and like to like doe run their race.

Like Christe like harts of Christian men:

As like to like wel coupled then.

¶ Therefore like grace, like faith and lone,
like vertue springs of eche degree:

Where like assistance from aboue,
doth make them like so right agree.

A holy God, a Christe most iust:

And so like soules in him to trust.

¶ Then like as Christe aboue doth raigne,
in heauen high our saviour best:

So like with him shal be our gain,
in peace, and ioy, and endles rest.

If we our selues like him doe frame:

In feare of his most holy name.

¶ To him be praise that grace doth giue,
wherby he fashineth vs a new:

And make vs holily to liue,

like to him self in faith most true.

Which our redemption sure hath wrought:

Like him to be most dearly bought.

FINIS.

